

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-41 were pending in the application prior to this amendment. All of the aforementioned claims have been rejected by the Examiner.

Claims 1, 2, 15, 17 and 21-41 have been amended in this response. No new matter has been introduced, and thus, entry and consideration of this amendment is now respectfully requested.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and §103(a):

Claims 1-9, 11-17, 21-28, 35-37 and 41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by US 2005/0262542 to DeWeese, et al (hereafter, "DeWeese").

Claims 10, 18-20, 29-34 and 38-40 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over DeWeese in view of US 2001/0005182 to Aaltonen (hereafter, "Aaltonen").

Applicants assert that the claimed invention is clearly distinguishable over DeWeese. For example, amended independent claim 1 recites:

- 1.(Currently Amended) A method comprising:
- hosting a first user and a second user;
 - transmitting a broadcast service to said first user;
 - receiving a broadcast request from said second user, said broadcast request requesting said broadcast service; and
 - transmitting said broadcast service to said second user.

The present invention, as claimed, clearly sets forth, *inter alia*, that a second user requests a broadcast service that is being transmitted to a first user. In response, the second user receives the broadcast service which is being transmitted to the first user. DeWeese fails to teach, suggest or disclose such a feature.

Applicants respectfully submit that DeWeese relates to a television chat system which allows television viewers to engage in real-time communications in chat groups with other television viewers while watching television. Users of the television chat system may engage in real-time communications with other users who are currently watching the same television program or channel. The system allows real-time communications in a chat group to be

transmitted between users at user television equipment devices via a television distribution facility. (Abstract)

The Office Action states in the Response to Arguments section that “it is clear that the chat box 206 allows real-time communication between multiple users while they are viewing the same television program 202.”

Applicants respectfully submit that the method as set forth in amended claim 1 requires that the second user request a broadcast service that is being transmitted to the first user. However, DeWeese merely discloses a chat system which allows users to engage in real-time communications with other users who are currently watching the same television program or channel. Therefore, DeWeese does not disclose receiving a request from a second user for a broadcast service being transmitted to a first user. In the system of DeWeese, since the users are already watching the same broadcast, neither user will request the broadcast being transmitted to the other user. Again, DeWeese clearly includes no teaching or suggestion of receiving a broadcast request from a second user for a broadcast service being transmitted to a first user, as recited in at least amended independent claim 1.

Furthermore, the Examiner seems to be interpreting the chat system taught by DeWeese as a “broadcast service” as required by the pending claims. Even if the chat system is considered to be a broadcast service, claim 1 requires “receiving a broadcast request from said second user” for a broadcast service that is being transmitted to the first user. In the system taught by DeWeese, a user who has already joined a chat group may “send a chat request to other users who may be interested in joining a chat group” (paragraph 0130) DeWeese provides no teaching or suggestion that a user can send a broadcast request for a broadcast service that is being transmitted to another user. In other words, DeWeese provides no teaching or suggestion that a user may request to join an existing chat group. A user wishing to join a chat group must be requested by an existing member of a chat group to be able to join the chat group. Thus, DeWeese does not teach or suggest “receiving a broadcast request from said second user, said broadcast request requesting said broadcast service”, as required by at least claim 1.

Furthermore, Aaltonen, relied upon to teach receiving DVB-T signals, neither recites nor implies receiving a broadcast request from a second user for a broadcast service being transmitted to a first user. As a result, Aaltonen does not remedy the discrepancies discussed with respect to DeWeese above.

In view of the above, amended independent claim 1 is asserted to be clearly distinguishable from the DeWeese and Aaltonen references, taken alone or in combination. Further, independent claims 15, 21, 35 and 41 include at least all of the limitations discussed above with respect to amended claim 1, and are therefore also distinguishable. The remaining claims depend from these independent claims, and therefore, are also distinguishable. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejections of claims 1-41 now be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of the application.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4208-4050. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4208-4050. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
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